



CITY OF LOUISVILLE

BUILDER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

GENERAL FENCE REQUIREMENTS

The City of Louisville "Builder Assistance Program" is intended to help contractors and the general public understand the requirements for building certain projects within the City and provide guidelines for obtaining a building permit. This handout addresses frequently asked questions about fencing requirements and codes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is a permit required to build a new fence?

Yes. Please submit the following:

1. A completed permit application.
2. A copy of your survey plat or improvement location certificate with fence location shown.
3. Elevation view of fence with size of members, dimensions, etc.

Is a permit required to repair my fence?

Only if the value of the work exceeds \$500 or the location of the fence changes.

What if I'm on a corner lot?

There are specific height, location, and vision clearance restrictions for corner lots. Please check with the Planning Department regarding your particular situation.

May I, as a homeowner, do the work myself?

Yes. However, if a contractor is hired, the contractor must obtain the building permit and be licensed in the City of Louisville.

Will my fence be inspected?

Yes, the permit holder must call for the required inspection after the fence is completed.

What are the height and vision clearance restrictions?

1. No fence shall exceed six feet in height except as approved by the planning commission for required screening, recreational purposes or unique security requirements.
2. No fence exceeding four feet in height shall be located in any front yard.
3. No fence exceeding two and one-half feet in height shall be located in any vision clearance area of a street intersection unless said fence is more than eighty percent open.
4. No fence shall be located so as to extend into street or alley right of way.

Each subdivision may have provisions that are more restrictive than those above. We advise that you check with your home owners association as well as the City Planning Department for specific PUD requirements. The city does not enforce any sub-division covenants set up by home owners associations.

Can I install a barbed wire fence?

It is unlawful for any person to construct or maintain within the city any fence containing barbs, barbed wire sharpened nails, or any other pointed or sharpened ends, or metallic substance, except as follows:

1. Barbed wire fencing is permissible in industrial areas when placed atop other fencing at a minimum of six feet off the ground.
2. Barbed wire fences are permissible in agricultural areas.
3. Barbed wire fences shall be permissible in residential areas for unusual security purposes upon approval by city council.
4. It is unlawful for any person to erect, construct or maintain any **electric fence** or fences within the city except within the agricultural zoning district when the fence is used for the purpose of maintaining livestock. An electric fence shall be defined as any electrical device used for the purpose of deterring access or barricading or enclosing an area.

Our staff is here to assist you in building a safe and durable structure.
You may contact the City of Louisville Building Safety Division at (303) 666-6565 Ext.154.
Appointments for inspections must be scheduled by calling Ext. 153.
Visit our website at www.ci.louisville.co.us



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RESIDENTIAL FENCE

Minimum Construction Requirements

All fences constructed in the city shall conform to the minimum standards contained herein. Fences must be constructed to conform to any applicable subdivision covenants or restrictions. Fences must be located completely on owners property unless written approval is received from adjacent property to place fence on property line. All solid wood fences must be constructed to meet the following minimum design standards:

1. All solid wood fences four feet to six feet in height shall have one four by four wood post, or equivalent, for every thirty square feet of fence area.
2. For fences four to five feet in height, two horizontal stiffeners shall be required. The lower stiffeners shall be within twelve inches of ground level and the upper stiffeners shall be twelve inches to the top of the posts.
3. For fences five to six feet in height, three horizontal stiffeners shall be required, equally spaced from ground level to the top of the fence.
4. All posts for fences of four to six feet in height shall be set in concrete at a depth of not less than one and one-half feet into the ground. Diameter of the concrete required under this section shall not be less than eight inches.
5. All fences constructed under this standard must be kept in good repair.

